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A
SPECIMEN
OF
NAKED TRUTH,
FROM A
British Sailor, &c.

A
SPECIMEN
OF
NAKED TRUTH,
FROM A
BRITISH SAILOR,

A sincere Wellwisher, to the Honour, and
Prosperity of the present Royal Family,
and his Country.



William Edward Vernon
L O N D O N :

Printed for W. WEBB near St. Paul's.
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S I R,

MY Letters being made up, signed, directed, and sealed, for having gone by Yesterday's Post, if there had been any Opportunity of Weather for it; I shall begin this with informing their L—ps, that Yesterday—Evening and till Midnight, we had a very hard Gale of Wind from the S. W. to the S. S. W. that obliged us to make our Ships as snug as we could for riding it out, and thought it prudent even to get our Topsail Yards down into the Top, and I thank God we all rode it out without any Damage; and the Weather moderating this Morning, I got Yards and Topmasts up by Day-light, and am now unmooring, and shall weigh with my Division as soon as the Ebb Tide begins to favour us for it.

I have just now received yours of the 21st, informing me of your having communicated to their L——ps mine of the 20th, with the several inclosed therein, as I have the

several Orders and Papers that are come inclosed in yours : And I send you now inclosed, for their L——ps Information, the Copy of the Orders I leave with Vice Admiral *Martin*, for taking under his Command all the Detachments said to be coming to join me from Commodore *Smith*, for employing them under the Orders he has already receiv'd from me ; those additional ones I now leave with him, and whatever other Orders their L——ps shall judge expedient to send him ; but if there comes any Fireships or Bomb-Ketches, he is to dispatch all such after me.

I am pleased to find their L——ps have approved of the Orders given to Captain *Tomson* of the *Pool*, who was happily anchored with all the *East India* Ships in *Westgate Bay* before this hard Gale of Wind came on, as I fear much Damage might have happen'd to them, who were said to be very badly furnished with Ground Tackle.

I could not but be under some Surprise what could be meant by the Expression in your Letter, of “ having kept all my great
 “ Ships in the *Dorens*, and employed only
 “ my Frigates for gaining Intelligence, while
 “ the Enemies Ships have passed backwards
 “ and forwards between *Ostend*, *Dunkirk*,
 “ and

“ and *Calais*, at their Leisure, without
 “ Hindrance or Molestation.” I cannot
 conceive where you must have picked up
 such Intelligence, so contrary to what is
 the Fact, that my former Letters have re-
 lated to you, to inform their L———ps
 of, *viz.* That amongst other Frigates em-
 ployed on such Services, were the *Eagle*,
York and *Carlisle*, that have been some time
 since at my Recommendation, and in good
 part by my Influence, engaged into the
 Crown’s Service ; and are and have been
 ever since the 11th of December acting un-
 der my Orders only ; though your Letter,
 Sir, mentions them as Privateers, as if they
 were acting under their own Orders : And
 within that Time, I must repeat it now,
 five Galliot Hoys have been taken coming
 from *Havre de Grace* to *Boulogne*, and sent
 into *Dover* ; and of those coming from
Dunkirk going for *Calais*, a Dogger, laden
 with five Pieces of Cannon, several Field
 Carriages, one hundred Barrels of Gun-pow-
 der, and other Military Stores, has been set
 Fire to, and all seen to blow up in the Air
 by Captain *Gregory*, who was with them in
 a Cutter on that Service ; two of their Shal-
 lop Fishing Boats sunk, twelve others of
 them

them chased on Shore, and three with Cannon and military Stores brought into *Dover*, and a *Calais* Dogger Privateer of six Guns and fifty Men taken, thirty one of which I have on board the *Princess Louisa*, and have desired Vice Admiral *Martin* to give himself the Trouble of examining some of them, to try if better Intelligence cannot be procured from them, than what Captain *Hill* has been able to gather from them, which you had inclosed in my Yesterday's Letter, as you have had of the twelve Sail of Ships chased from within two Leagues of *Calais* back into *Dunkirk* Road by the *Saphire* and *Folkstone*, one of which they chased on Shore upon the Sands, and the Pilot would not venture so near as the Captain took upon himself to do. Surely, these are Instances of the Enemy having been watched much closer than could have been expected in this Winter Season : And what are the large Ships I have kept in the *Downs*? The *Norwich* and *Ruby*, two fifty Gun Ships, for till the Arrival of the *Monmouth* and *Falkland* I have had no other ; I thank God, by a prudent Conduct the Enemy have been prevented from sailing either from *Dunkirk* or *Ostend* for
this

this Month past, and none of his Majesty's Ships have been shipwrecked, by any imprudent Disposition of them, and that I think I have acted prudently and successfully in his Majesty's Service, though in many of your Letters I have been treated as if I had done neither; and to look no further back, I think I am treated so in this Letter of yours of the 23d; which I desire the Favour of their L——ps to call for the Copy of, and have read to them; as I cannot conceive any just Grounds I have given for my being treated in such a Stile in your Letters, on Facts that you must at least have been grossly misinformed in. As to my Reasons for mentioning the Counties of *Kent* and *Sussex* to be my Province, I have some Letters of yours that mention it to me as such, which are of an old Date, and are in my Escutore on Shore; but as there does not want a late Instance of it in your L——ps Orders to Commodore *Smith* of the 3d of this Month, which you sent me a Copy of by their L——ps Orders, I have sent you inclosed the Preamble of that Order, in which it appears to me pretty fully expressed so. I shall always serve my Royal Master with a sincere Zeal for his Service, and with the utmost Diligence, Re-

solution

olution and Capacity that I am capable of, to the best of my Judgment, and while my Services are approved of, I shall always continue them with Pleasure; but if I am judged not to have a Capacity for it, as by the Stile of the Secretary's Letter seems to be insinuated; sure it is the Fruits of a sincere Zeal to say, that if you have thought of any one you judge more proper for it, all that I desire is, that his Majesty may be most effectually served, and I shall with Pleasure resign any Command I have to him.

Captain *Knowles* has brought another Letter of yours of the 23d, and that he is come to serve with me as a Voluntier; and as I well know Captain *Knowles's* Zeal and Activity for his Majesty's Service, his coming here gives me a particular Pleasure, as I shall be glad to advise with him for his Majesty's Service, and at all Times ready to furnish him with any Opportunities, that he can suggest to me for our Royal Master's Service, and defeating the Enemies Intentions for invading his Majesty's Dominions, which from having discovered by my Cruizers, that the Enemy are drawing their Transports from the Westward to *Boulogne*, and from the Eastward from *Ostend* and *Dunkirk*

to

to *Calais*, I am fully persuaded the Enemies Intentions in those Motions have been to attempt an Invasion upon the opposite shore of *Kent*, from the Ports of *Boulogne* and *Calais*, and which I have been endeavouring to move for preventing these three days successively ; am now unmoored for, and nothing but the Weather shall prevent me. And their L—ps will see by my Orders to Vice-Admiral *M——n*, (I have sent you inclosed the Copy of) I have strengthened his Command with all the Force their L——ps have ordered here from Commodore *Smith*, and have left with him the Copy of his Orders you have sent me inclosed, and desired he will dispose all those put under his Command immediately on the Services he judges most expedient for watching the Enemies Motions from *Ostend* and *Dunkirk*. And as to the four Ships lately arrived from *Cape Breton*, which, by their L—ps Orders of the 23d I am to take under my Command, those I hope to meet withal in their Passage here, and shall incorporate into my Division upon my meeting with them, or detach a Part of them to join Vice-Admiral *M——n*, as subsequent Intelligence shall manifest to me may be most for our Royal

B

Master's

Master's Service, and Defence of his Dominions from the threatned Invasion.

We had some Appearances for moderate Weather this Morning, but the Wind is backed to the Southward, and a Southern Swell comes round the Foreland, and it gathers Dirty and Greasy to Windward, that I am doubtful whether I shall be able to get out with it, but I shall not fail to attempt it, if there be any Appearance of its being practicable; and the Captains of the *Saphire*, *Folkstone*, *Badger* and *Hornet*, with the *Dover* Custom-house Cutter, Captain *Stringer*, have all my Orders for proceeding in the Execution of their former Orders, for the inspecting their Proceedings at *Calais* and *Boulogne*; and nothing either has or shall be omitted for his Majesty's Service, that I can think of, or any one can suggest to me to be most expedient for it. And you have always had Copies of the Orders I have issued for that Purpose sent for their L——ps Approbation. You have inclosed the List of the Custom-house Cutters that have appeared, six of which I keep to act under my Orders, and the other three to remain under Vice-Admiral *M—n's*.

I am,

December 25.

S I R, &c.

S I R,

S I R,

AS it would be for his Majesty's Service to have a speedy Communication of Intelligence either by Night or by Day, of the Enemies Appearance of any Embarkations for attempting to invade his Majesty's Dominions, I desire you will write Letters to the respective Church-Wardens of the Parishes, &c. mentioned in the Margin, to hoist a Flag upon the Church Steeple as a Signal for it by Day, and keep a Firelight in an Iron Pot at the same Place as a Signal by Night, to be repeated from the Steeples of the respective Churches, for communicating the Intelligence from *Beachy Head* to the South Foreland.

*Dover Castle.
Folkestone Church.
Sandgate Church.
Dim Church.
The Nefs.
Rye Church.
Fair Leigh Church.
Hastings Church.
Pomsay Church.
Beachy Head.*

I am,

S I R,

Your humble Servant.

B 2

S I R,

S I R,

I Have just now received yours of the 31st by Captain *Scott* of the *Badger*, with the inclosed from *Holland*, whose Intelligence perfectly agrees with what I found to be true, the Enemies having been in Motion from *Dunkirk* for *Calais*; the twelve Sail of Ships having been drove back into *Dunkirk* Road by the *Saphire* and *Folkstone*, and several of the Embarkations having been some burnt, sunk and taken by my Cruizers, the *Carlisle* and *York* Frigates, and you know the Examination of those taken in the *Duchess de Penthièvre* agrees with the *Dutch* Account.

Captain *Owen* had looked into *Boulogne* the Morning before Captain *Knowles* did, and at the same Time as he did, and he makes the Enemies Embarkations to be above one hundred and fifty Sail, and Captain *Pigram* of the *Rye* Cutter agrees with him in his Report, though Captain *Knowles* says he could see but sixty, but I am inclined to think Captain *Owen* much the best acquainted with that Harbour.

You

You know, Sir, my Orders are to deliver this Command up to you, which I am moving up to the *Downs* for, with this pleasing Satisfaction, that I have from these Accounts already put such a Check to the Enemies intended Descent, that it is to me very doubtful if they will venture to hazard it now. I shall however continue anchored here till next windward Tide, and pray open all my public Letters as well as your own, to see whether I can continue to act, or be pleased to be taking the Measures you judge properest. I have now Captain *Owen* and *Bazely* over at *Boulogne*, having detached them away for a fresh Inspection, and before I weighed myself from *Dungeness*. I will not come into the *Downs* till the latter End of the Evening's Flood, for being at Hand to receive their Report, and act conformably to it, and I hope by that Time to hear from you again, and shall be plying under Sail off *Dover*. I am,

January 1st. at three
in the Morning.

S I R,

Your most humble Servant.

S I R,

S I R,

UPON the first of Yesterday's Flood I weighed with the Squadron from the Westward of *Dungeness*, as I informed you I intended to do, having just before given out my Orders to Captain *Bazely* and *Owen* in the *Eagle* and *Carlisle* Frigates under their Command, jointly to make sail over for *Boulogne*, for taking a fresh Inspection of the Enemies Situation and Motions at the Port of *Boulogne*, under the particular Orders I send you inclosed a Copy of. And in my Way plying up Channel, I was joined by the *Folkstone* and *Triton*, and *Hornet* Sloop, and upon the Tide being spent, I anchored with my Squadron between *Dover* and *Folkstone* last Night, and about eleven at Night, the *York* joined me from the *Downs*, and at half an hour past one this Morning, Captain *Scot* of the *Badger* came on Board to me with a Letter from Vice-Admiral *M—n*, and two Letters inclosed from *Holland*. And though the Vice-Admiral has, as he says, sent you Copies of them, yet as the Advice was sent to me, I choose to do the same.

It could not but give me great Pleasure to find the Gentleman's Letter from *Holland* intirely

tirely confirms the Intelligence I have given their L——ps, and to find that he thinks with me likewise, that my diligent Exertion of my Duty, has even been said there to have frustrated their Intentions of invading this Part of the Kingdom this last full Moon, of which nothing could give me greater Pleasure than the having rendered such effectual Service to his Majesty and my Country, though I have been treated in that contemptuous Manner in your Letters.

I have given Captain *H——* the Orders you have inclosed a Copy of, for his weighing with the first of the Flood, for making a fresh Inspection at *Calais* this Evening or to Morrow Morning. As soon as the Windward Tide makes I shall weigh with the Squadron, and keep plying and exercising my Ships in Line of Battle, and for being ready at Hand on any Advice of the Enemies Motions, till I have but barely Time for anchoring in the *Downs* before it is Night, when I shall obey their L——ps Commands, consign the Command of the Fleet to Vice-Admiral *M——n*, then strike my Flag, and go on Shore, pursuant to their L——ps Orders.

January 1st,

I am, &c.

T H E

THE Confession of *George Harrison* of *Hastings* declares, That on *Thursday* or *Friday* Se'ennight last he saw about 50 Sail of Transports of about 100 Tuns and under in *Boulogne* Harbour, intended for an Embarkation of Troops, that about six or seven thousand were designed to embark there; but he was informed the whole Number was to be twenty three thousand from different Places: that they work Night and Day, and even employ'd Women to fit their Vessels; that as soon as convenient they intend to push for *Dungeness*, run their Vessels on Shore, and land their Men; that he believes they intend to take the Opportunity of sailing the next Spring Tide in the Night; that their Sails were not bent when he was there, and the whole Number of Troops in *Boulogne* at that Time was not more than 400, but the rest were ready to join immediately; and it was publickly said they intended for *England* to join the Pretender, if possible.

That when he goes to *Boulogne* in the Day-time, his Signal is a white Jack on the Gaff-head, and in the Night a Lanthorn hoisted and lowered three times, and when hailed by the Centinel, his Watch-word was

Amic,

Amie, then he is admitted on Shore and carried to the Commissary, who examines him, but he pretends he never would discover any News. That he heard some Man was brought over by a Smuggler and landed at *Pemsey Bay*, but does not know who; that there was only one Smuggler left in *Boulogne* Harbour, which belongs to *Rye*; that they made use of a House at *Boulogne*, kept by *Tho. Con*; that he is very willing to assist in any Shape the Admiral shall think proper for his Majesty's Service. He likewise says, that one Mr.---*Jermain*, a Merchant at *Boulogne*, told him the Pretender's second Son was taken by one of our Men of War, and asked him if he thought they would hang him. 17 Dec. 1745.

GEORGE.

The Mark H of
HARRISON.

The above Examination taken by us

ELLt. SMITH.

T. GREGORY.

C. WIMBLETON.

Extracts of Letters from Holland in December.

THAT some of the *Irish* Troops were
to be embarked in large Ships, but
C the

the Embarkation, which the *French* National Troops were to be a Part, was to be somewhere very near in *England*, and in order to help to transport them, the Fishing Boats along the whole Coast were taken up for that Service, and that the Number of Boats taken up was said to be above 130, and that the poor Fishermen at *Blankenbourg* were lamenting with Tears in their Eyes, that (by the King's Order) they were to leave their daily Business, and go they did not know where; that the Troops for *England* were said to be commanded by Count *Lowendahl*, and reckoned not less than twelve thousand. The common Report at *Dunkirk* was, that they were all going for *Scotland*, but many of their Vessels being so small, I cannot but be of the Opinion I was first informed, that the greatest Part is for *England*, somewhere to the Westward of *Dover*; I think I could be positive in this, if I may depend upon an Information I had two Days ago, that the People of the Smuggling Cutters which trade to *Boulogne* are all taken to serve for Pilots; it is pity that such pernicious Villains cannot be destroyed, their villainous Trade is the least Thing I think of at this Time, for they keep up too my certain Knowledge, a daily Correspondence betwixt

England

England and *France*, so that there is not the least Thing done or ordered but the Enemy immediately know it by their Means.

On the twenty second some of their small Vessels went from *Dunkirk* to *Calais*, so that every Day, or rather every Night since, they have been going from *Ostend* and *Newport* to the same Place; and now the Talk is of their landing near *Dover*, and so marching directly to *London*.

We have now a Report, that some of these Transports that sailed last Week were fallen upon by some of your Frigates, which may disconcert the whole Scheme of the Enemy.

And from these Checks it is said that the Storm is now drawing to the Westward, though not in my Power to say positively where they design to embark, or where they are to land, but some mention they are to be supported by a Squadron from *Ferrol*.

——Taken in the *Dutchess de Penthièvre* by the *York* Frigate the 19th of December: That he was forced on board the *Dutchess de Penthièvre* that Evening; that they left in *Calais* Harbour five or six other Privateers; the *St. Nicholas*, a Snow of eight carriage Guns and ten Swivels; the *St. Ben-*

net, of twelve carriage Guns besides Swivels; the *Swallow*, a Lug Sail Privateer of eight Guns; the *Louis XV*, a Dogger of eight Guns, besides a half Galley of 24 Oars, and three Guns, one of them in her Prow; ten Galliot Hoys and Flutes, all which had their Sails bent, besides several small Vessels and Fishing Boats, said to be detained to carry Troops to *England*.

That there have been for a Fortnight past Troops coming from *Flanders* daily into *Calais*, some passing forward towards *Boulogne*, as others came in there; about eight Regiments had passed before he came away, and the Night before two Regiments came into Town, and upwards of threescore Waggon loaded with Corn and Meal; they were covered, but he saw the Sacks; reckoned there were in the Forts and Citadel, including the Garison which is 3000, at least 6 or 7000 Men. It is said the Embarkation will be made from *Dunkirk*, *Calais* and *Boulogne*. That several *Irish* were expected, who were to land first, and that they were getting the Vessels ready as fast as possible. That on the 17th the Pretender's youngest Son came into *Calais*, that on the 18th, when he went out of Town, all the Troops were drawn
out,

out, and they saluted him *Vive le Roy*, he being accompanied by the Governor and Gentry of the Town, and a great Number of Officers ; that he did not see the young Man himself to take any Notice of him, but has heard from others who did, that he squinted. Of the small Embarkations there are said to be to the Number of fifty, who have each a Brass Piece of Cannon, with a Field Carriage pointed aft, standing abaft the Main-mast.

Tuesday, the 31st of December, a Boat with a Lieutenant brought on board the *Carlisle* the Admiral's Orders for both the *Eagle* and *Carlisle* to weigh, for going to take a fresh Survey at *Boulogne* ; at a 11 the Admiral's Orders were deliver'd to Captain *Bazely*, and we stood over together for *Boulogne* Road.

Wednesday, the 1st of January at nine in the Morning, looked into *Boulogne* Harbour, and saw there of Ships, Snows, Briggs and Doggers about 15 sail, Galliot Hoys about 36 sail, and of Fishing Boats about 80 or 90 ; they fired at us from the Pier Heads, and the Battery to the Eastward of the Town, and from *Amblitus* Castle ; we saw a Privateer Sloop that was sunk in the Road, which we believe was from the *Saphire's* Guns
when

when she stood in, the same Day that Captain *Knowles* was there in the *Triton*.

WILLIAM OWEN,
JOHN BAZELY.

My Lord Duke,

YOUR Grace having, from a Nobleness of Mind, and Humanity of Temper becoming of your high Birth, espoused the Cause of an injured innocent Person, and honoured with Marks of your generous Friendship an Officer you thought so deserving of it, so as to become his Advocate, and procure his being restored to his Rank in the Royal Navy, and employed in it accordingly at this critical Conjunction ; as a Testimony of your Grace's Confidence that he had Judgment to execute it, and an honest Zeal for approving himself a faithful, zealous and diligent Officer and Servant to our Royal Master. And I hope in God, as well as I sincerely believe to be true, that this Officer, in the Person of your humble Servant the Writer, has had that just Regard for the Discharge of the Duty confided to him thro'

your

your Grace's Means, that he may with Confidence assert, that he has acted so circum-spectly, diligently and assiduously in the Execution of that Trust, as to have manifested to the World that your Grace was neither deceived in your Judgment of his Capacity for the Service of the Crown, nor his Inclination to discharge his Duty to our Royal Master, with a sincere, honest Zeal, for approving himself his Majesty's faithful Subject and Servant, which he has had the double Incitement to, of his Duty to the King, and the just Regard he ought to have for justifying your Grace in the good Opinion you had entertained of him. As I am conscious I have done nothing ever justly to forfeit that good Opinion that engaged your Grace to honour me with your Patronage and Friendship, I entertain too good an Opinion of your Grace to think I have not the Continuance of it, *notwithstanding the late Incident of my being hunted out of my Command by the operative Malice of some malicious and industrious Agent, that is too well skreened over, for my being able particularly to discover him, and point out who it is ;* so that must remain to me a Secret, till some happy Providence in the Course of Time may more clearly disco-

ver it; not being nevertheless in my own Mind doubtful, but I can trace the original Cause of it, and guess pretty nearly at who may be the concealed Director of it. As the Pen of the Secretary of the Admiralty conveyed these bitter Shafts that were levelled at me, I thought it right to suggest, that his Pen might be tinged with a Gall flowing from his own Mind, beyond the Direction he might receive for it, from which I thought it my Duty to acquit him on a Gentleman like Apology in Regard to his Office, which I was no Stranger to its being his Duty to obey, and on an Assurance of a good Will he had always professed, and I well knew I never gave him Occasion to alter the Sentiments of a professed Friendship to me.

And one of the Occasions taken to justify this Conduct towards me, having been that I had, within the Channel of *England*, on a Ship's Service being immediately wanted for proceeding to Sea, and being without a Gunner (certainly a necessary Officer for her Defence) and which I could not think my self justified in permitting to go to Sea without, presumed, as it is called, to warrant a Gunner to her, for proceeding to Sea in her, as I judged it to be absolutely necessary for his

Ma-

Majesty's Service, and the Defence of the Ship.

And having now stated the Fact, I shall presume to give your Grace my Sentiments in that Particular, *viz.* That it is my Opinion, that when the Admiralty is ordered by the Crown to fit out a Fleet for the Service of the Government in the Channel of *England*, or on foreign Service, and the Admiralty had commissioned them out of the Sea Officers on Shore, and appointed the Admiral to command in Chief, in Pursuance of his Majesty's Pleasure, and the Fleet were assembled together, that to support the necessary Command of the Officer the King had appointed, it was the Government's Interest that the Commander in Chief should name all Officers that fell vacant, and has not been denied while the depending Service was essential ; but Pretences from the Admiralty, that the Ships were not assembled, or not under Orders, and as Checks are in their Power, they have contradicted it, though always to the Prejudice of the Crown's Service. For when the People of the Fleet see their Commander in Chief can neither support their Pretensions of Merit, nor his own Authority over them, they must naturally look after

D

those

those who are no Judges of their Service, and renders the Commander contemptible to the Fleet. This Power is known to have been absolute in the Commanders in Chief in the Channel, and in one who has added Honours to your Grace's Family ; and when that Power has been wanting, has, I believe, been always found prejudicial to the Service of the Crown and Prosperity of the Kingdom.

And having given your Grace the Trouble of reading my Sentiments in this Particular, I will now proceed to declare, that it is my Opinion that this is the Sentiment of Sir *John Norris* likewise, and that your Grace has most grossly been imposed upon in the Assertion of Sir *John Norris* being of a contrary Opinion ; and I thank God that Sir *John Norris* is now living, who can satisfy your Grace, his Majesty, or the Public, what are his Sentiments, whenever it be thought proper to take his Opinion upon it. Your Grace may think I talk with much Confidence of Sir *John Norris's* Opinion at this Distance, but when I inform your Grace that I have served immediately under his Command as a Lieutenant, when he served as first Captain under that brave, honest and experienced Admiral, Sir *Claude Shovel*, that was an Honour

nour to his Country and the Service, and whom, I believe, no Man knew that did not love and esteem him ; and I have on several Occasions served as a Captain under Sir *John Norris*, whom I know to be a consummately experienced and gallant Sea-Officer, and have lived in an uninterrupted Friendship with him ; your Grace will not be surprized that I venture to assert what is his Opinion, as well as my own ; and were you to consult Admiral *Matthews* or Sir *Chaloner Ogle*, though I don't pretend to give you now my Opinion in regard to them, yet I do verily believe this to be their Opinion likewise ; but of this it is easily in your Grace's Power to satisfy yourself.

I shall now only add, that I am at present detained here for having my Baggage embarked for proceeding to *Harwich* in one of the armed Vessels, Vice-Admiral *M——n* has been so obliging to assign me, to carry to my House on the *Ipswich* River.

I propose at present being in *London* by *Tuesday* or *Wednesday* Night, whenever it is I shall be at your Grace's Door the next Morning after my Arrival, in order to pay my Duty to your Grace, and afterwards, before I set out for *Suffolk*, (if it has your Grace's Approbation) to be presented by you to pay my

Duty to His Majesty. And the Favour I shall now desire of your Grace is, that your Porter may have Orders from you to let me in, if such a Visit be agreeable to your Grace, and if not that I may be told so, not to give an unnecessary Trouble to you or myself.

I have begun with expressing a grateful Sense of the Testimony of the Friendship you have honoured me with, which on all Events I shall ever retain, as I may say it is a sort of hereditary Inclination in our Family to have entertained an Honour for your Grace, from the Memory of that glorious Martyr for the Liberties of his Country, my Lord *William Russel*, the Memory of which has in some Manner been transmitted to Posterity with my Father's Hand, whom I think was the Draughtsman of the Ducal Patent in your Grace's Family; and I have heard it much commended for the Elegancy of the Stile, and the just Honours done to a Nobleman of so many amiable Qualities, unfullied by any Vices that ever I heard of.

That your Grace may live and die as great an Honour to your Family, shall ever be the sincere Wishes,

My Lord Duke,

of your Grace's, &c.

S I R,

Weasel, Downes, January 8th, 1745.

S I R,

STANDING in on the 6th Instant within Cannon Shot of *Boulogne*, saw in the Harbour about a hundred Masts of small Vessels and Boats, at the same Time five *English* Men, who had been taken Prisoners in Merchant Ships, and one Soldier at *Fontenoy*, who had entered into their Service, as thousands have been forced to do, through the ill Treatment they meet with in their Prisons, deserted to us ; these Men informed us of there being fifteen Battalions at *Boulogne*, and three Squadrons of Horse with their Accoutrements put on board the Vessels, and all their warlike Stores ; and that there is a Person who styles himself Duke of *York*, and several more with *English* Titles ; most of the Forces are *English*, *Scotch* and *Irish*, of which great Numbers want only Opportunities to desert. They say their Numbers are about 11,100, and as many at *Calais*, and were to have made their Attempt the last

last full Moon, had they not met with Information that Admiral *Vernon* was off *Dun-geness*, their intended Place of Landing, with several Men of War. They have expected the *French* Fleet of thirty Sail of the Line all this Month, with several Transports, which if they are disappointed at the *Nefs*, are to make an Attempt in *Ireland*: Colonel *Lalley* went over to *England* in a Smuggling Boat, dressed in a Sailor's Habit, where I hope he will meet with his Deserts.

F I N I S.

Vernon



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233-37

